

## S P E C I F I C A T I O N A M E N D M E N T

At page 10 of the specification, please replace the first full paragraph beginning at line 5 with the following amended paragraph as follows:

The data storage device 350 stores a program 360 for controlling the processor 310, and may also store a session database 370, game situation database 380 and/or symbol effects database 390. The processor 310 performs instructions of the program 360, and thereby operates in accordance with the present invention, and particularly in accordance with the methods described in detail herein. The program 360 may be stored in a compressed, uncompiled and/or encrypted format, as well as in a variety of other forms known in the art. The program 360 furthermore includes program elements that may be necessary, including without limitation an operating system, a database management system and "device drivers" for allowing the processor 310 to interface with peripheral devices. Appropriate program elements are well known to those skilled in the art, and need not be described in detail herein.

At page 12 of the specification, please replace the fourth full paragraph beginning at line 19 with the following amended paragraph as follows:

FIGS. 7 and 8 depict tables 700 and 800 representing the session database. The tables 700 and 800 include a number of respective example records or entries 710 and 810, each defining an outcome of a player's gaming session. Those skilled in the art will understand that the session database may include any number of entries. The tables 700 and 800 also define fields for each of the entries or records. The fields specify: (i) a spin number (720 and 820) that uniquely identifies the outcome; (ii) an outcome (730 and 830) description, which describes the particular reel symbols; (iii) a starting balance (740 and 840) before any adjustment in the balance due to the outcome; (iv) a payout or loss (750 and 850) due to the

outcome; (vi) an ending balance (760 and 860) after any adjustment in the balance due to the outcome, and which is the sum of the starting balance and the payout or loss due to the outcome; and (vii) a number of outcomes remaining (770 and 870) which must be completed per the terms of an agreement as described in further detail herein.

At page 14 of the specification, please insert the following amended paragraph before the first full paragraph beginning at line 3:

FIG. 9 is a flow chart illustrating an exemplary process 900 according to some embodiments of the present invention. The process 900 comprises: determining that a player has equity which may be debited 910; generating an outcome of the gaming device 920; determining that the outcome is a negative outcome 930; and reducing the balance by more than the wager amount 940.

At page 19 of the specification, please replace the first full paragraph beginning at line 3 with the following amended paragraph as follows:

FIG. 12 depicts an exemplary illustration of a gaming device 1200 according to some embodiments. Depicted are both a primary game, involving reels 1232, 1234, and 1236; and a secondary game involving game board 1210. As depicted, the current game situation in the secondary game includes a game character 1220 located at the third location on game board 1210 from the “START.” The number of pulls remaining 1250 is “10”. In other words, the player has ten handle pulls in which to achieve an objective in the secondary game. As depicted, one objective is for the game character to reach locations of the game board 1210 marked “\$” or “\$\$” near the “END.” In FIG. 12, reel 1234 illustrates an exemplary symbol from a primary game that may have an effect on a secondary game. The symbol, “Go Back Three Spaces,” has the effect of moving game character 1220 three spaces

back (e.g., three spaces towards the “START” side of the game board). The “Go Back Three Spaces” symbol may be considered part of a negative outcome since the outcome containing the symbol (i.e., the outcome “lemon-Go Back Three Spaces-Bar”) sets the game character 1220 further back from its objective. Accordingly, the payment a player may expect to receive from the game may be reduced by the occurrence of the illustrated outcome.